

Milwaukee County

Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., 10th District

For Immediate Release October 26, 2011 Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager 414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

STATE SENATE CAN'T STOP PEOPLE FROM HAVING THEIR OWN HEARINGS!

Milwaukee, WI –Milwaukee County Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., released the following statement expressing his strong disappointment with the State Legislature's party line vote to not hold hearings in Milwaukee on <u>Senate Bill 207</u>:

"Even though bureaucrats in Madison are denying democracy and refusing to hear the will of the people, the public should hold its own public hearings in protest of this discriminatory legislation that does nothing to create jobs. The majority in the State Senate is too scared to face the critics of this horrible bill, and I am not surprised by this cowardly action.

"I fully support any grassroots community effort to hold a hearing in Milwaukee County regarding this bill. If necessary, I will even secure a location and host the hearing myself. I helped raise awareness about this bill early on because, after reading it, I knew it would have a detrimental impact on our community. This bill is being rammed through by the Legislature because these cowards in Madison know that, the more people know what's in the bill, the more it will be disliked.

"In the meantime, I am asking the residents of Milwaukee County, 'do you want your voices to be heard on this legislation? Don't let the State Legislature mute your voices. Call my office at 414-278-5173 if I can be of any assistance in coordinating a public hearing on SB 207."

SB 207 would prevent individuals convicted of felonies from getting jobs. Supervisor Biddle believes the bill would make it easier for employers to discriminate against individuals with felony convictions.